

1. (Twice Amended) A context-sensitive data announcing device comprising
an ad hoc network interface configured to receive a plurality of announcements
identifying a plurality of members of an ad hoc network;
a database comprising information regarding each of the plurality of members;
a processor configured to extract the information regarding the plurality of members from
the database using the identifying plurality of announcements; and
a user output device for outputting concurrently the information regarding the plurality of
members.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Twice Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein the user output device outputs
concurrently the information regarding the plurality of members in the order the announcements
were received.

4. (Twice Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein
the information regarding an urgent member comprises an urgent designation; and
the user output device outputs concurrently the information regarding the urgent member
before information regarding at least some of the other members of the plurality of members.

5. (Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein the processor is configured to extract the
information regarding the plurality of members that are proximate to the device.

6. (Amended) The device of claim 5 wherein the processor is configured to determine the
proximity of the plurality of members using a signal strength provided by the network interface.

7. (Unchanged) The device of claim 5 wherein the processor is configured to determine the proximity of a member using the number of hops among members the announcement associated with the member made before being received by the ad hoc network interface.

8. (Unchanged) The device of claim 1 wherein the ad hoc network interface uses one of radio frequency communications, optical communications, or wired communications.

9. (Unchanged) The device of claim 1 wherein the user output device comprises one of a vibrating mechanism, an audio output, or a visual output.

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10. (Twice Amended) A method for an announcing member of an ad hoc network to announce the presence of one or more members of the ad hoc network, the method comprising receiving an identifying announcement from a plurality of members of the ad hoc network;
accessing a database using the plurality of identifying announcements to retrieve information regarding each of the plurality of members of the ad hoc network from which an announcement was received; and
outputting concurrently the information regarding the plurality of members to a user output device.

11. (Canceled)

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12. (Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein outputting concurrently the information includes outputting concurrently the information in the order received.

13. (Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein outputting concurrently the information includes raising an urgent identifying announcement to output above information regarding at least one other member of the plurality of members.

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14. (Unchanged) The method of claim 10 further comprising determining the proximity to the announcing member of each of the members of the ad hoc network from which the announcing member received an announcement; and
outputting comprises outputting only the identifying data for members of the ad hoc network that are proximate to the announcing member.

15. (Unchanged) The method of claim 14 wherein the announcements hop among members of the ad hoc network in order to reach the announcing member and wherein determining the proximity comprises counting the hops an announcement made before reaching the announcing member.
16. (Unchanged) The method of claim 14 further comprising measuring the signal strength of each received identifying announcement; and wherein determining the proximity comprises comparing the signal strength of each received identifying announcement to a threshold.
17. (Unchanged) The method of claim 10 further comprising building the database.
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18. (Amended) The method of claim 17 wherein building the database comprises extracting new information from the plurality of identifying announcements; and storing the new information in the database.
19. (Unchanged) The method of claim 17 wherein building the database comprises retrieving new information from a database external to the announcing member; and storing the new information in the database.

20. (Twice Amended) A system for identifying members of an ad hoc network, the system comprising

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communicators, associated with a plurality of source members and a display member, for communicating announcements regarding the source members between the source members and the display member;

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a database comprising information regarding the source members;

a processor configured to access the database using the announcements to produce accessed information; and

an output associated with the display member for outputting concurrently the accessed information regarding the plurality of source members.

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21. (Unchanged) The system of claim 20 wherein the processor is configured to access the database for only those source members that are proximate to the display member.

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22. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 21 wherein

an announcement passes through at least one communicators as it travels from the source members to the display member; and

the processor is configured to determine the proximity of a source member to the display member based on the number of communicators the announcement passed through between the source member and the display member.

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23. (Amended) The system of claim 21 further comprising
- a plurality of signals for carrying the announcements between the source members and the display member;
- a signal strength measurer associated with the display member, the signal strength measurer producing a signal strength for each signal received from a source member; and
- wherein
- the processor is configured to determine the proximity of the source members to the display member using the respective signal strengths.

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24. (Unchanged) The system of claim 20 wherein the output displays the accessed information for the source members in the order that the announcements were received from the respective source members.

25. (Unchanged) The system of claim 20 wherein
- the accessed information for each source member has an associated urgency, the urgency having an order; and
- the output displays the accessed information for the source members in the order of urgency.

26. (Unchanged) The system of claim 20 wherein the processor is associated with the display member.

27. (Unchanged) The system of claim 20 wherein the database is associated with the display member.

28. (New) The device of claim 1 wherein the user output device outputs concurrently the information regarding the plurality of members in order of proximity to the announcing device.

29. (New) The method of claim 10 wherein outputting concurrently the information includes outputting concurrently the information in order of proximity to the announcing member.

30. (New) The system of claim 20 wherein the output associated with the display member outputs concurrently the accessed information regarding the plurality of members in order of proximity to the display member.

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